



CITY OF  
**GRAND RAPIDS**  
IT'S IN MINNESOTA'S NATURE

**ARTS & CULTURE COMMISSION**  
**SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES**  
**Tuesday, May 16, 2023**  
**3:45 PM**

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 3:50pm by Commission Chair Hedlund.

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT

Commissioner Ed Zabinski  
Commissioner Kari Hedlund  
Commissioner Myrna Peterson  
Commissioner Aaron Squadroni  
Commissioner Amanda Lamppa  
Commissioner Angie Miskovich

ABSENT

Commissioner Jennifer Gorman  
Commissioner Derek Fox

Also present, City Administrator Tom Pagel and Emily Carlson, MacRostie Art Center Program Manager

PUBLIC INPUT: (if anyone wishes to address the Commission)

None.

SETTING THE AGENDA:

**Motion made by Commissioner Peterson and Second by Commissioner Zabinski to approve the Agenda as written. All in favor, Motion passed.**

CORRESPONDENCE:

None.

APPROVE MINUTES:

1. Approve Minutes for April 4, 2023

**Motion made by Commissioner Zabinski and Second by Commissioner Squadroni to approve the April 4, 2023 minutes. All in favor, Motion passed.**

FINANCIALS: There has been no activity.

**Motion made by Commissioner Lamppa, Second by Commissioner Peterson to accept that there was no activity for the financials. All in favor, Motion passed.**

BUSINESS:

2. Welcome New Commission Members

The Arts and Culture Commission welcomed it's newest Commission member Angie Miskovich. City Administrator Tom Pagel will try to set up an orientation for the newest Commission members.

3. Review Mayor's Art Award Policy and Score Sheet

Discussion regarding the Mayor's Art Award Policy, it's marketing, promotion thereof and the value to the Community. The question is whether to continue how it has been done or change it to displays of local businesses and let the community vote. The nominees can be on facebook and the citizens can vote, with the ultimate decision being made by the Commission. It would also be fun to award the winner at the Tall Timber Days Event instead of Riverfest.

The suggestion was made to have some kind of a plaque to show public recognition in support of art, similar to the Colorado Rhino District Award in Denver. Tom Pagel, City Administrator will redline the changes to the policy and all Commissioners are to bring in a nomination for the award. Each Commissioner nominee could have two photos to show at the next meeting.

The Commission will review the policy and nominations next month. Commission Chair Hedlund will talk to the two missing Commission members, Gorman and Fox.

4. Riverfest

Discussion regarding art at Riverfest. Commissioner Squadroni suggested the Commission look at the Blue Ox Music Festival of Eau Claire and how they did "Art in the Pines" for 2023. The Commission could do something by the Riverwalk or some kind of themed art that would be attention grabbing. Even the installation of an art piece for approximately \$1-\$1,1500 from a local artist would be an opportunity for local artists and also for advertisement for them.

Possibly the MacRostie could lead this effort to do something like a mini-exhibit for Riverfest, with the possibility of the art being lit up. City Administrator Tom Pagel suggested talking to Tom Page to bring some of his musical sculptures and light them up. He will start with talking to Tom Page about doing this..

UPDATES:

5. Pokegama Band Map

Commissioner Zabinski gave an update on Karen Noice's Pokegama Band Map Project. The display here along this area of the Mississippi River could end up being an art piece. This project with support could be a large outdoor map and exhibit. Ms. Noice has done some outreach to local Native Americans to advise her on what they would like to see. She will be back in touch with the Commission in June, July at the latest.

6. Neighborhood Art Project

- Score RFQ's (see attached)
- Please review and score prior to the meeting

Discussion and Review of the Neighborhood Art Project artist's scoring. City Administrator Tom Pagel would like to have the Commission members artists scoresheet in the next couple of days so he can have the results to the Commission by June 6th.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

None.

SET AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING:

BUSINESS:

- 2) Welcome New Commission Member
- 3) Review New Mayor's Art Award Policy and Discuss Nominations
- 4) Riverfest

UPDATES:

- 5) Pokegama Band Map - Karen Noice
- 6) Neighborhood Art Sculpture Request for Council Action

ADJOURN:

**Motion made by Commissioner Peterson and Second by Commissioner Squadroni to adjourn. All in favor, Motion passed.**

Respectfully submitted by Cynthia Lyman, Administrative Assistant